IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants   :   Irvin W. Brechner et al.

Application No.   :   09/998,053   Confirmation No: 5512

Filed   :   November 11, 2001

For   :   SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR DISSEMINATING
                              INFORMATION

Group Art Unit   :   2152

New York, New York 10020
February 22, 2002

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
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Arlington, VA 22202
Attn: BOX: MISSING PARTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, applicants hereby amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at line 32 of page 9 and ending at line 2 of page 10 with the following:

FIG. 13 is a diagram of an illustrative article that includes registered address information in accordance with the principles of the present invention; and

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 10, which starts at line 3 and ends at line 6 with the following:

FIG. 14 is a diagram of an illustrative telephone directory page that includes registered address information in accordance with the principles of the present invention.

Please delete the second full paragraph on page 10, which starts at line 7 and ends at line 10.

Please delete the third full paragraph on page 10, which starts at line 11 and ends at line 14.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 60, which starts at line 15 and ends line 30 with the following:

A magnetic data storage medium can be encoded with a machine executable program that can be carried out by equipment such as central facility 106, user equipment 108, and/or vendor equipment 110 of FIG. 2 to implement methods discussed in connection with FIGS. 1-14. The medium may be a storage device of central facility 106, user equipment 108, and/or vendor equipment 110 of FIG. 2. The medium can be floppy diskette or hard disk, having a suitable substrate, which may be conventional, and a suitable coating, which may be conventional, on one or both sides, containing magnetic domains (not visible) whose polarity or orientation can be altered magnetically. The medium may also have an opening (not shown)

for receiving the spindle of a disk drive or other data storage device.

Please replace the paragraph starting at line 32 of page 60 and ending at line of page 61 with the following:

The magnetic domains of a coating of a medium are polarized or oriented so as to encode, in a manner which may be conventional, a machine-executable program such as those described above in connection with FIGS. 1-14, for execution by equipment such as central facility 106, user equipment 108, and/or vendor equipment 110 of FIG. 1.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 61, which starts at line 6 and ends at line 19, with the following:

An optically-readable data storage medium which also can be encoded with such a machine-executable program, which can be carried out by equipment such as central facility 106, user equipment 108, and/or vendor equipment 110 of FIG. 2. The medium can be a conventional compact disk read only memory (CD-ROM), a digital versatile disk (DVD), or a rewritable medium such as a CD-R or CD-RW disk or a magneto-optical disk which is optically readable and magneto-optically writeable. The medium [500] preferably has a suitable substrate [501], which may be conventional, and a suitable coating [502], which may be conventional, usually on one side of the substrate [501].

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<u>Remarks</u>

This application was inadvertently filed without two sheets of drawings containing FIGS. 15 and 16. On December 26, 2001, the Patent and Trademark Office issued a Notice to File Missing Parts of Application that indicated that FIGS. 15 and 16, which are described in the specification, were omitted from this application.

Applicant accepts the application as deposited in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and maintains the filing date to be the date of deposit of the application papers in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Pursuant to M.P.E.P.§ 601.01(g), applicant is amending this application with this preliminary amendment to remove specific references to FIGS. 15 and 16 and to the reference numbers therein.

Applicant believes, however, that the specification of this application sufficiently describes FIGS. 15 and 16 to support the amendment of this application to include FIGS. 15 and 16. Applicant will file another preliminary amendment at a later time to amend the application to include FIGS. 15 and 16.

Entry of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

Body

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

The following shows the changes to the specification:

At the paragraph starting at line 32 of page 9 and ending at line 2 of page 10:

FIG. 13 is a diagram of an illustrative article that includes registered address information in accordance with the principles of the present invention; and

At the first full paragraph on page 10, which starts at line 3 and ends at line 6:

FIG. 14 is a diagram of an illustrative telephone directory page that includes registered address information in accordance with the principles of the present invention[;].

At the first full paragraph on page 60, which starts at line 15 and ends at line 30:

[FIG. 15 presents a cross-section of a] A magnetic data storage medium [400 which] can be encoded with a machine executable program that can be carried out by equipment such as central facility 106, user equipment 108, and/or vendor equipment 110 of FIG. 2 to implement methods discussed in connection with FIGS. 1-14. [Medium 400] The medium may be a storage device of central facility 106, user equipment 108, and/or vendor equipment 110 of FIG. 2. [Medium 400] The medium [400] can be floppy diskette or hard disk, having a suitable

substrate [401], which may be conventional, and a suitable coating [402], which may be conventional, on one or both sides, containing magnetic domains (not visible) whose polarity or orientation can be altered magnetically. [Medium 400] The medium may also have an opening (not shown) for receiving the spindle of a disk drive or other data storage device.

At the paragraph starting at line 32 of page 60 and ending at line 5 of page 61:

The magnetic domains of a coating [402] of a medium [400] are polarized or oriented so as to encode, in a manner which may be conventional, a machine-executable program such as those described above in connection with FIGS. 1-14, for execution by equipment such as central facility 106, user equipment 108, and/or vendor equipment 110 of FIG. 1.

At the first full paragraph on page 61, which starts at line 6 and ends at line 19:

[FIG. 16 shows a cross-section of an] An optically-readable data storage medium [500] which also can be encoded with such a machine-executable program, which can be carried out by equipment such as central facility 106, user equipment 108, and/or vendor equipment 110 of FIG. 2. [Medium 500] The medium can be a conventional compact disk read only memory (CD-ROM), a digital versatile disk (DVD), or a rewritable medium such as a CD-R or CD-RW disk or a magneto-optical disk which is optically readable and magneto-optically writeable. [Medium 500] The medium preferably has a suitable substrate [501], which may be conventional, and a suitable coating [502], which

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may be conventional, usually on one side of the substrate [501].

At the second full paragraph on page 61, which starts at line 20 and ends at line 27:

In the case of a CD-ROM, as is well known, the coating [502] is reflective and is impressed with a plurality of pits [503] to encode the machine-executable program. The arrangement of pits is read by reflecting laser light off the surface of the coating [502]. A protective coating [504], which preferably is substantially transparent, is provided on top of the coating [502].

At the paragraph starting at line 28 of page 61 and ending at line 3 of page 62:

In the case of magneto-optical disk, as is well known, a coating [502] has no pits [503], but has a plurality of magnetic domains whose polarity or orientation can be changed magnetically when heated above a certain temperature, as by a laser (not shown). The orientation of the domains can be read by measuring the polarization of laser light reflected from the coating [502]. The arrangement of the domains encodes the program as described above.